



**AUSTRALIA:** Scattered showers covered most winter crop areas. In Western Australia, rainfall was light (5 mm or less in most areas) but timely as seasonal warming spurred local grain and oilseed development. In the southeast (South Australia to New South Wales), somewhat heavier rainfall (2-15 mm or more) and near- to above-normal temperatures benefited vegetative winter crops, but patchy frost likely limited development. Rainfall was sparse in Queensland's interior crop areas, but scattered showers (up to 25 mm) along the coast caused some disruptions of sugarcane fieldwork. In New Zealand, light rain (25 mm or less) covered the agricultural districts of North Island, but dry weather dominated eastern crop lands of South Island. During July, showers maintained generally favorable moisture levels in Western Australia's western and southern winter crop areas. Farther inland, however, below-normal rainfall continued for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive month, although seasonably mild weather kept crops in a semi-dormant state. July rainfall was also below normal across the southeast, but much of the rain fell in the latter half of the month and was timely for tillering wheat and barley. Near- to above-normal temperatures spurred the early crop development. Warmer- and drier-than-normal weather dominated winter crop areas of Queensland and northern New South Wales, where additional moisture will be needed in upcoming weeks as winter wheat and barley advance through reproduction. Mostly dry weather favored fieldwork in sugarcane plantations along the eastern coast.